

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amends claims 1, 2 and 5-7 as shown below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application

1. (Currently Amended) A method of creating print data, in which, prior to creating binary image data in a raster image processor (RIP) including a plurality of printing-plate creation data for respectively creating a plurality of printing plates for sequentially printing a plurality of print images on a printing medium using the plurality of printing plates, a plurality of print data to adjust one or more of position and shape of a print image is created without performing mechanical position or shape correction in a printing device, wherein each of the plurality of print data includes an image type data for at least one image type constituting the corresponding print image, and a position data for determining at least one of an image type position data corresponding to a position of the image type in the print image and an image type shape data indicating a shape of the image type, wherein creating the print data includes:

determining deformation information on an amount of elongation or contraction in a direction in which the printing medium is to be elongated or contracted based on a previously printed print image when the previously printed print image is made in a printing operation for the plurality of print images on the printing medium by the use of the plurality of printing plates;

adjusting one or more of the position and the shape of the print image without performing mechanical position or shape correction in the printing device including correcting at least one image type data constituting at least one of the plurality of print images in terms of elongation or contraction in the direction in which the printing medium is to be elongated or contracted, by changing the position of the image type data and the shape of the image type data on the basis of the corresponding position data and the deformation information of the previously printed print image; and

generating the print data obtained by binarizing the print data subjected to the correction in terms of elongation or contraction.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of creating print data according to claim 1, wherein the deformation information corresponds to a print condition of the printing medium when each print is made, wherein the deformation information is stored in a deformation information table, and the deformation information in the deformation information table is automatically set on the basis of the print condition when elongation or contraction correction is performed.

3-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising:

a computer-readable storage media providing instructions which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform a method for adjusting one or more of position and shape of a print image without performing mechanical position correction in a printing device, the instructions including:

instructions to create print data for the print image prior to creating binary image data including printing-plate creation data for printing the print image on a printing medium using a plurality of printing plates, wherein the print data for the print image includes an image type data for an image type corresponding to the print image, and a position data for determining one or more of an image type position data corresponding to a position of the image type in the print image and an image type shape data indicating a shape of the image type in the print image, wherein the instructions to create the print data for the print image includes:

instructions to determine deformation information of a print image downstream from the print image during printing of the downstream print image in the printing device, the deformation information indicating an amount of elongation or contraction correction to be applied to the printing medium in a direction the printing medium is to be elongated or contracted;

instructions to adjust one or more of the position and the shape of the print image without performing mechanical position or shape correction in the printing device including correcting the image type data of the print image by changing the position of the image type data in the print image and the shape of the image type data in the print image based on corresponding position data and the deformation information of the downstream print image; and

instructions for generating the print data obtained by binarizing the print data for the print image based on the corrected image type data of the print image to match print positions of the print image with corresponding print positions of the downstream print image.

6. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising:

a computer-readable recording medium containing instructions, which when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform a method for creating print data, the instructions including:

instructions to create print data for printing a print image in a printing device, in which the print data is created before creating binary image data including a plurality of printing-plate creation data for printing the print image on a printing medium using a plurality of printing plates, wherein the print data includes an image type data including an image type of the print image and a position data including one or more of an image type position data corresponding to a position of the image type in the print image and an image type shape data indicating a shape of the image type in the print image, wherein the instructions for creating the print data include:

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instructions to determine deformation information on an amount of elongation or contraction in a direction in which the printing medium is to be elongated or contracted based on a previously printed print image while the previously printed print image is being printed to the printing medium using the plurality of printing plates;

instructions to adjust one or more of the position and the shape of the print image without performing mechanical position or shape correction in the printing device including

correcting the image type data of the print image in terms of elongation or contraction in the direction in which the printing medium is to be elongated or contracted by changing the position of the image type data and the shape of the image type data based on corresponding position data and the deformation information of the previously printed print image; and

instructions to generate the print data obtained by binarizing the print data for the print image subjected to the elongation or contraction correction.

7. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

creating print data for a print image prior to creating binary image data in a raster image processor (RIP) including printing-plate creation data for printing the print image on a printing medium using a plurality of printing plates in a printing device, wherein the print data includes image type data corresponding to an image type of the print image, and a position data for determining one or more of an image type position data corresponding to a position of the image type in the print image and an image type shape data indicating a shape of the image type in the print image, wherein creating the print data for the print image includes:

determining deformation information of a print image downstream from the print image during printing of the downstream print image, the deformation information including an amount of elongation or contraction correction to be applied to the printing medium in a direction the printing medium is to be elongated or contracted;

adjusting one or more of the position and the shape of the print image without performing mechanical position or shape correction in the printing device including correcting the image type data of the print image by changing the position of the image type data and the shape of the image type data based on the deformation information of the downstream print image; and

generating the print data obtained by binarizing the print data for the print image based on the corrected image type data to match print positions of the print image with corresponding print positions of the downstream print image.